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Index to Recent American Botanical Literature.

Aconitum Fischeri. J. D. Hooker. (Bot. Mag. t. 7130).

Sir Joseph Hooker adopts this name for the Aconite of north-eastern Asia and refers to it the *A. Columbianum*, Nutt. of the Rocky Mountains and Pacific coast, and the recently published *A. Noveboracense*, Gray, (BULLETIN, 1886, p. 190) of central New York; he even suggests that they all may have to go into the eastern North American *A. uncinatum*, L. Whatever may be the merits of *A. Columbianum*, which has already been regarded by American botanists at one time or another as identical with the Asiatic plant, we feel confident that *A. Noveboracense* represents a distinct species, and that *A. uncinatum* is equally valid. *A. Noveboracense* appears to us nearer related to *A. paniculatum*, Lam., of central Europe than to *A. Fischeri.*

N. L. B.

Alleghanies of Virginia in June—The. Anna M. Vail. (Garden & Forest, iii. 367, 368; 391–392).

Bur Oak—A Fine. (Garden & Forest, iii. 402, illustrated).

Accompanying a general description of *Quercus macrocarpa* is an account and representation of an individual specimen known as the "Cravath Tree," growing upon the farm of Mr. Miles G. Cravath, Whitewater, Wis.

Catalogue of the Uncultivated Flowering Plants Growing in the Ohio State University Grounds. Moses Craig. (Bull. Ohio Agric. Exp. Sta., i. 49–110, with map of grounds).

This list is concerned with the phanerogams only and contains 468 species and varieties. Common names are given in every instance where a common name is known. Tables of comparison are included, showing the number of genera and species in each order as found in the University grounds and as reported for the entire State. Also a table of comparison, showing the number of species in ten of the principal orders in the University grounds, Franklin County, and State. In like manner the number of species in the genera *Carex* and *Aster* are compared. The catalogue is manifestly a carefully prepared one and is unusually precise and full in regard to dates and locations. The nomenclature is somewhat antiquated, but as the author says he has been "striving always to employ the names sanctioned by the late Dr. Gray" the synonomy may be readily hunted up, especially as in numerous instances the author has caused synonyms to be printed in brackets. The work will certainly render the future study of botany at the State University a much easier task than when the author first undertook it.

Color Notes on California Wild Flowers. C. R. Orcutt. (Garden & Forest, iii. 438, 439; 450–451).

The author seems to think that color characteristics are apt to be "frequently ignored by botanists" and hence takes pains to say that he has compared his descriptions with the colored plates given in Ridgeway's "Nomenclature of Colors for Naturalists" and we are treated to such tints as "deep claret-brown" for *Fritillaria biflora,* "bright magenta" for *Lathyrus venustus,* "Heliotrope purple" for the spots in the corolla of *Frasera Parryi,* "Chinese orange" and "orange-vermilion" for *Calochortus Kennedyi,* "Pomegranate purple" for *Opuntia prolifera.* We are told that the corolla of *Erythræa venusta* is "of a shade belonging somewhere between solferino and magenta, too dark for rose purple!" *Læselia tenuifolia* has flowers "something between a poppy-red and carmine." *Sphæralcea Emoryi* has "flame-scarlet" flowers. *Monardella lanceolata* is described as having "Phlox-purple" flowers, while the flowers of *Thamnosma montanum* are "prune-purple." It certainly would require a highly colored imagination to picture the appearance of the descriptions in Gray's Manual, for instance, if such a code of color nomenclature should be adopted.

Caraguata angustifolia. J. G. Baker. (Bot. Mag. t. 7137).

Contributions to Texan Botany. N. L. Britton. Trans. N. Y. Acad. Sci. ix. 181-185).

This includes (1) Additions to the List of Plants collected by Miss Mary B. Croft at San Diego, sixty-seven species being enumerated *Lippia ligustrina* (Lag.) Britt. is the older specific name taken up for *L. lycioides,* Steud. Several corrections are made in former determinations. (2) Note on some plants collected by Mr. Frank Tweedy in Tom Greene County in 1879, an enumeration of ninety-nine species, *Desmodium Tweedyi* being described as new.

Cratægus coccinea, L. var. macrantha, Dudley. L. H. Bailey. (American Garden, xi. 513, 514, fig. 1).

Dangerous Fungi. H. W. Harkness. (Zoe, i. 151-152).

Diatoms—Movements of. C. Onderdonk. (Microscope, x. 225-229.

Dogwood—The Flowering. (Garden & Forest, iii. 425, 426, fig. 54).

Includes a picture of a fine tree of *Cornus florida*, growing on the estate of A. L. Barber, Grimes' Hill, Staten Island, N. Y.

Elm—The Clark. (Garden & Forest, iii. 438, illustrated).

An account and figure of a celebrated tree of *Ulmus Americana,* growing upon the Clark-Hancock place at Lexington, Mass. and known to be about 125 years old.

Episcia maculata. (Bot. Mag. t. 7131).

Native of British Guiana.

Fermentation of Bread. Katharine E. Golden. (Bot. Gaz. xv. 204-209).

In this article the author describes the experiments made to determine the main factor in the raising of bread—whether due to *Saccharomyces cerevisiæ* or *Bacillus subtilis.* In conclusion she says: "It was demonstrated by the experiments that both yeast and bacteria can separately raise bread, and, under the conditions of the experiments, the yeast somewhat better than the bacteria. Now, whether or not they act together in raising bread ordinarily was not demonstrated, but from the fact that both organisms were found in large quantities in dough that had been raised by Fleischmann's yeast, and that bacteria are always in the air and in large quantities on the surface of the grain from which flour is made, and also that they occur in all preparations of yeast ferment, it seems to be the only satisfactory conclusion that both the bacteria and the yeast act together in raising most if not all kinds of bread."

Flora of the Californian Islands. T. S. Brandegee. (Zoe, i. 129-148).

This is essentially a list of the flora of these islands as recognized by the writer: 512 species are enumerated. The object of the paper is evidently to make an opportunity to throw doubt on the validity of the numerous species described from the territory by Professor Greene, a large number of which are here referred to mainland plants, the whole subject of the enumeration of the flora having just been exhaustively treated by Dr. Yates. Some of these reductions are probably desirable, as Professor Greene has proposed them, but a considerable number at least are very wide of the mark. The reference, for example, of five *Eschscholtzias* back to *E. Californica* indicates either that Mr. Brandegee's botanical instinct is not very highly developed, or else that personal dislike of Mr. Greene is warping his judgment. The nomenclature of the list is, to say the least peculiar, Linnæus being in several cases credited with binomials which he never wrote. N. L. B.

Flowers and Insects—V. Chas. Robertson. (Bot. Gaz., xv 199-204).

Insect visitors to the following plants are noted; *Astragalus. Mexicanus, Strophostyles angulosa, Amphicarpæa Pitcheri, Cercis Canadensis, Cassia Chamæcrista* and *Cassia Marilandica.*

Fungi of Western New York. Charles E. Fairman. (Proc. Rochester Acad Sci. 43-53; two plates. Also reprinted).

A general account of the mycologic flora of the region, followed by descriptions of new species in the following genera: *Didymosphæria, Anthostomella, Pseudovalsa, Vermicularia, Phoma, Diplodia, Sphæropsis, Sporidesmium, Mucor* and *Camarosporium.*

Fungous Diseases of the Spinach—Some. Byron D. Halsted. (Bull. No. 70, N. J. Agric. Exp. Sta.)

Peronospora effusa, Colletotrichum Spinaceæ, Phyllosticta Chenopodi, Entyloma Ellisii and *Cladosporium macrocarpum,* are figured and described.

Germination of Milkweed Pollen—Artificial. Byron D. Halsted. (Microscope, x. 229, 230, illustrated).

Observations upon the pollen of *Acerates viridiflora.*

Hansteinia et Stenostephanus—Sur les Caracteres des. H. Baillon. (Bull. Mens. Soc. Linn. Paris, i. 855).

A discussion of the relations of these Mexican genera.

Helianthemum—A New. W. H. Evans. (Bot. Gaz. xv, 211).

H. Canadense var. *Walkeri* is described from specimens collected at Castle Rock, Colo., by Mrs. S. B. Walker.

Hepatiques Nouvelles des Colonies Francaises. E. Bescherelle et Richard Spence. (Bull. Soc. Bot. France, xxxvi. 177–189, t. XIII–XV).

In the prefatory note M. Bescherelle explains that his only collabration consisted in sending the material and notes to Dr. Spruce. The species are arranged geographically, thirteen from Guadaloupe, in the genera *Mylia, Lejeunea, Blepharostoma, Cephalozia, Kantia, Leioscyphus* and *Jungermannia;* one *Lejeunea* from French Guiana and the remaining six species not American.

Hepaticæ Novæ Americanæ Tropicæ et Aliæ. Richard Spruce. (Bull. Soc. Bot. France, xxxvi. 189–207, t. XVI–XVII.

These also were sent to the author by M. Bescherelle, three from Mexico, fourteen from Paraguay, two from the Argentine Republic and fourteen from Brazil collected by Balansa, Hieronymus and Glaziou. The following genera are represented: *Frullania, Lejeunea, Radula, Lophocolea, Aneura, Riccia, Anthoceros, Lepidozia, Chiloscyphus, Plagiochila* and *Metzgeria.* Under *Lepidozia plumæformis*, n. sp., is cited one of Dr. Rusby's collection from Bolivia. The plates in both these papers are lithographed from drawings by W. H. Pearson.

E. G. B.

History of Garden Vegetables—The. E. L. Sturtevant. (Am. Nat. xxiv. 719–744).

Notes are given upon the following plants: "Skirret," (*Sium sisarum*); "Snails," (*Medicago scutellata*); "Soja" Bean, (*Soja hispida*); "Sorrel," (*Rumex sp.*); "Southernwood," (*Artemisia Abrotanum*); Spinach, (*Spinacea, sp.*), and Squash, Pumpkin and Gourd, (*Cucurbita, Pepo, Melopepo,* etc). The latter vegetables are described at some length, and the memoranda in regard to the importance of squashes and pumpkins as a food product in early colonial times are of considerable interest. Whether or not they all originated in this country seems still to be in doubt, but the author concludes that * * "as the present types have all been recorded in the Old World since the fifteenth century, and were not recorded before the fourteenth and succeeding centuries, there must be a connection between the fact of the discovery of America and the fact of the appearance of pumpkins and squashes in Europe." In regard to the gourd the author thinks there is still room for investigation in regard to its status as a native or introduced plant in this country, but apparently inclines to the belief that it has been introduced.

Hypoxylon Broomeanum, Berk. and Curt.

It is remarked in "Grevillea," xix. 21, that specimens named *H. amorphum*, Ell. and Ever. are clearly the above species.

Kalmia—A Curious Form of. C. S. Sargent. (Garden & Forest, iii. 452, fig. 56).

Description and figure of a monstrous form of *Kalmia latifolia* found at Deerfield, Mass. The corolla lobes are divided into five linear petals, alternate with the calyx lobes, and some of them producing abortive anthers. The variety seems to be constant, can be propagated by grafting, and is freely fertile in cultivation.

Locust Trees—The American. (Gard. Chron. viii. 181, 182).

An interesting account of *Robinia pseudacacia* in Europe, especially of the individual, yet living in the garden of the Museum in Paris, which was known to have been raised from seed in 1635, and is believed to be the first of its species that was made to grow in the Old World.

Neolindenia, Sur le. H. Baillon. (Bull. Mens. Soc. Linn. Paris, i. 851, 867-868).

Notes on a new genus, doubtfully referred to the Acanthaceæ, from Chiapas, Mexico.

Notes on the Canyon Flora of Northwest Nebraska. T. A. Williams. (Am. Nat. xxiv. 779, 780).

Notes on the Flora of the Lake Superior Region. E. J. Hill. (Bot. Gaz. xv. 140–149; 159–166).

Notes on the Ligneous Vegetation of the Sierra Madre of Nuevo Leon. C. G. Pringle. (Gard. & For. iii. 337, 338, 362–363).

Outlines of Wood's "How to Study Plants." (Pamph. pp. 28. Indiana Teachers' Reading Circle, 1890-'91).

Passiflora vitifolia. (Gard. Chron. viii. 212, fig. 32).

Pleurothallis platyrachis. (Bot. Mag. t. 7129).

Native of Costa Rica.

Prunus Allegheniensis. T. C. Porter. (Garden & Forest, iii. 428, fig 53).

A capital figure of this interesting species.

Pyrus arbutifolia. C. S. Sargent. (Garden & Forest, iii. 416, fig. 52).

In this contribution the author contends for specific rank for the two plants generally regarded as var. *melanocarpa* and var. *erythrocarpa.* Marked differences in time of flowering, size and color of fruit and time of its ripening and falling, in addition to leaf characteristics, are given. Under this arrangement we should have *Pyrus arbutifolia,* (L.) L.f. for the red-fruited species and *P. nigra* (Willd.) Sargent, for the black-fruited one. The point seems to us to be well taken.

Ruelliées exceptionnelles—Sur Plusieurs. (H. Baillon. (Bull. Mens. Soc. Linn. Paris, i. 852, 853).

Descriptions of *R. colorata* from Peru, and *R. Chiquitensis* from Bolivia, (Weddell No. 3495).

Scribner—Professor F. Lamson. (Orchard & Garden, xii. 149, illustrated).

Biography, with portrait.

Shortia galacifolia. (Garden, xxxviii, 204, 205, plate 768).

The history of *Shortia* is here briefly given, accompanied by a full page colored plate of the plant.

Some Effects of the Mild Winter. Jacob Schneck. (Bot. Gaz. xv. 209–211).

The memoranda in this article refer to the vicinity of Mt. Carmel, Ills., and we are told that *Malva rotundifolia, Stellaria media, Alyssum maritimum, Capsella Bursa-pastoris, Bellis perennis* and *Lamium amplexicaule* were in blossom all winter and were only checked by a spell of cold weather in March.

Spruce Pine—The Florida. Carl Mohr. (Garden & Forest, iii. 402, 403).

Describes the habitat and surroundings of *Pinus clausa* with with its accompanying vegetation.

Sweet Gum—The. (Garden xxxviii. 208, illustrated).

An account of the introduction into England of *Liquidambar styraciflua* and its occurrence there.

Triumfetta semitriloba. H. H. Rusby. (Reprint from Drug. Bull. Aug. 1890, illustrated).

Tulip Tree—The. (Gard. Chron., viii. 218, 219, fig. 36).

A representation of a large tree in Kew Gardens.

Virginia Creeper—The. E. S. Goff. (Garden & Forest, iii. 392–394).

Attention is called, in this brief note, to the fact that *Vitis quinquefolia* seems to produce two well marked varieties, one producing sponge-like disks and hence climbing everywhere readily, the other producing tendrils without disks which assist the plant in clambering up rough surfaces only. We have seen mention made of these two varieties before, and the importance of distinguishing between them is often highly important when the vine is to be planted for ornamental purposes. Observation of the natural geographical distribution of the two forms would be valuable.

Water Lilies—Notes on Mexican. C. G. Pringle. (Garden & Forest, iii. 415). *Nymphæa Mexicana*, *N. elegans*, *N. ampla* and *N. gracilis* are described.

In regard to the latter species the author says: " Of the several species under consideration this one alone, as I believe, possesses any marked fragrance. Its root-stock is a tuber rather than a rhizome—or such at least it appears in autumn, after all the rest of the plant has perished—an ovoid body one to three inches in length, with thick and hard outer shell, covered with bosses quite like a pine cone in appearance. In this state the plant is prepared to hibernate and endure safely the droughts of the earlier months of the year, when many of the shallow lakes which it inhabits are dried up, and the land, where they lie tumbling about on the surface, is even growing a crop of wheat."

*West American Oaks: Part II.** E. L. Greene. Pamph. 4to., pp. 30, plates 13; San Francisco, Cal., June, 1890).

Part two of this splendid work has been issued under the same conditions as part one—Mr. James M. McDonald assuming the financial responsibility and Prof. Greene undertaking the necessary botanical explorations and descriptions. The general style of Dr. Kellogg's drawings has been preserved, so that there is a gratifying uniformity throughout, and this latter part is a fitting sequel to the great work so well begun. *Quercus Gilberti* and *Q. venustula* are described as new. A problematic specimen of *Q. Gambelli*, from Bear Creek Cañon, Col., is figured and so named, provisionally, but the author says that he suspects it may ultimately be found worthy of varietal rank. *Q. Jacobi* is figured on the same plate with *Q. Garryana*, Dougl., with which it has been frequently confounded, and *Q. Macdonaldi*, var *elegantula*, is figured and described as a probable hybrid between *Q. Engelmanni* and *Q. dumosa*. Changes from generally accepted names are few. *Q. Dunnii*, Kellogg, (1879) becomes *Q. Palmeri*, Engelm. (1876). The use of trinomials by the author we note again with regret, not only because they are frequently misleading in regard to the authority for the specific name, but also because it seems a needless innovation. As an example we may quote *Quercus Macdonaldi elegantula*, Greene, which is strictly correct, so far as the authority is concerned, as Prof. Greene is the author of both specific and varietal name, but when he writes *Quercus dumosa polycarpa*, Greene, it is misleading, for the reason that the name of Nuttall, the author of the species, does not appear. A. H.

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* For review of Part i, see BULLETIN, xvi. 177, 178.

Proceedings of the Club.

The regular meeting was held at Columbia College, Wednesday evening, Sept. 24th, the President in the chair and eighteen persons present.

Reports of several of the field excursions during the summer were received.

Mrs. Britton remarked on *Sabbatia stellaris*, forma *albiflora*, collected in abundance at South Beach, Staten Island, and on her discovery of spurs on the two outer sepals of *Impatiens biflora* at New Dorp. She also stated that *Habenaria ciliaris* was exceedingly abundant in flower at Linden Park, whereas last year only two or three plants were found in bloom. The President suggested that this species might be uniformly biennially flowering. Mr. Ogden reported it in full flower at Tenafly, N. J., this season, and the Secretary stated that flowers were abundant at that station in 1888.

Dr. Newberry remarked on his recent trip to the Adirondack region.

Mrs. Northrop gave a preliminary account of the vegetation of the Bahama Islands.